

THE COOPERATIVE FEDERATION OF VICTORIA

held at 225 Swanston Street, Melbourne on Monday, 22nd June 1981, commencing 7 p.m.

1. PRESENT

Mr. J. N. Black	Chairman
Mr. A. Dash	
Mr. A. Gill	
Mr. E. L. Long	
Mr. M. Rundle	
Mr. O. J. Slatery	
Mr. W. W. Rawlinson	Executive Officer

In attendance: Mr. B. Greer

Apologies for absence were received from

Messrs. B. H. Macintosh, A. Plant, J. Rigby.

2. WELCOME

In opening the meeting the Chairman welcomed Mr. Brian Greer and extended the congratulations and good wishes of the Council on Mr. Greer's appointment as Community Employment Cooperative Development Adviser.

Mr. Dash reported on the appointment of Mr. David Dimming as General Manager, Victorian Credit Cooperatives Association. Mr. Dimming was formerly Manager, Credit Union League of South Australia and Secretary of the Cooperative Federation of South Australia. An invitation was extended to Mr. Dimming to meet with the Council at a future meeting.

3. MINUTES

of the meeting held 18th May 1981, having been circulated to all Councillors, were confirmed and adopted as a correct record of that meeting.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

From and to

(1) Herd Improvement Organisation of Victoria re
Group membership of Herd Improvement and
Artificial Breeding Cooperatives.

(2) Cooperative Dairy Factories Association re
benefits of Federation membership for
Victorian Dairy Cooperatives.

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT

together with
acceptance of Rules
and the Cooperative
fees paid to 30th J

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COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT

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5. APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

were received from

- (i) Abalone Fishermen's Cooperative Ltd.
- (ii) Community Work Society Cooperative Ltd.
- (iii) Maryborough Producers and Recycling Cooperative Ltd.

together with relevant affiliation fees. Subject to submission and acceptance of Rules of (i) and (iii) the three applications were approved and the Cooperatives were admitted into membership of the Federation with fees paid to 30th June 1982.

6. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

A Statement of Income and Expenditure of the Federation from 1.7.80 to 31.5.81, together with estimated Balance Sheet as at 31.5.81 was presented to the meeting, discussed and received.

7. COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

7(i) Adviser

The meeting was advised of the appointment of Mr. Brian Greer, B.Com., LI.B., A.A.S.A., as Community Employment Cooperatives Development Adviser. He will commence duty as a member of the Staff of the Federation funded by the State Government on 13th July 1981.

7(ii) Ballarat Workshop

A successful Workshop, organised and administered by the Federation, funded by the Department of Employment & Training, was held in Ballarat on 23/24 May 1981 - attended by 64 representatives of Community Employment Cooperatives and interested Groups. It was considered to have been a successful function.

An interim financial statement of income and expenditure on the Workshop was tabled.

7(iii)

Representatives of Victorian Community Employment Cooperatives will be attending a national Conference in Canberra on 3, 4, 5 July organised by the Canberra Centre for Continuing Education.

7(iv)

Open Channel (Federation member - Melbourne Access Video & Media Co-operative Ltd.) have offered to include a half hour T.V. segment in a test telecast related to possible introduction of Community Television in October 1981. Two representatives of Employment Cooperatives and the Executive Officer, Mr. Rawlinson will serve as an advisory committee with Open Channel for development of the programme.

- 7(v) The funds for Employment Cooperatives recommended by the Funding Committee at its May meeting have been approved for release by the Minister.

10(iii)

8. LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

After obtaining legal opinion, as directed by Minute 8 of the May meeting of Council, Messrs. Long, Rundle and Rawlinson met with the Registrar and senior members of his staff on 5th June to discuss the Federation's submission on the draft proposals for the new Co-operation Act. The discussion was useful though not all the points made in the submission were accepted by the Registrar.

He advised of the Registry intention for the new legislation to be introduced as a Bill into the Parliament in the opening weeks of the Spring 1981 session.

The Committee had drawn the attention of the Registrar to the special needs of Work Cooperatives particularly in relation to the position of employed members acting as Directors. It was agreed a detailed study of their needs be made and a formal submission on desired legislative amendments be made thereafter.

9. ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND A.G.M.

- (1) Notice re nominations for Council as required by Rule 27 of the Constitution have been circulated to members

- (2) A proposed programme for the days proceedings combining the A.G.M. and Conference were agreed. Council agreed a nomination fee of \$15 be charged as a contribution towards costs.

10. REPORTS

10(i) Advisory Council

Mr. Long reported the Advisory Council had met on 18th June. Proposed introduction of the new Co-operation Bill into Parliament, Cooperatives in liquidation and approval of Guarantees was the main business.

10(ii) Executive Officer

Mr. Rawlinson reported on meetings on Worker Participation in Industry with the Modern Maid Factory, school based industry Cooperatives at Whittlesee Technical High School, visit to New South Wales Cooperative Federation in connection with the International Cooperative Study Course and C.F.A. Committee meeting.

He outlined a programme of visits to East Gippsland member Cooperatives, attendance at the Canberra Work Cooperatives Conference and visits to member Cooperatives in N.E. Victoria

11. OTHER BUSINESS

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- (ii)

12. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting
7 p.m.

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from 30/6/81 to 7/7/81.

10(iii) Cooperative Federation of Australia

Mr. Slattery reported on the committee meeting held in Sydney on 12th June at which the President of the C.F.A. and Presidents of the State Cooperative Federations of Western Australia and New South Wales were present in addition to himself.

That Committee accepted the proposals of the Victorian Federation agreed at the March meeting relating to use of reserves for funding 1981/82 operations subject to adequate planning developments being forthcoming in that time.

He advised that all State Federations had been consulted on the proposals in principle for a restructured Cooperative Federation of Australia to be the single Cooperative Federation with direct membership for all Cooperatives and with responsibility for allocation of resources to areas of most need. The concept had not been rejected in any State.

Current action by the committee is the preparation of a paper setting out the case for one national body with State divisions to enable more detailed consideration to be given to the proposal.

Mr. Slattery also reported on separate confidential discussions held by officers of the Cooperative Federation of New South Wales with senior Federal Government Ministers and with Presidents of A.F.C.U.L. and N.S.W. Permanent Building Societies relating to a Cooperative Financial Institution. The C.F.A. submission to the Campbell Enquiry and the N.S.W. Federation Centralised Banking Scheme were used as a basis for this initiative.

The N.S.W. Federation indicated its intention to keep C.F.A. fully informed of all developments.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

(i) The Chairman advised that he and the Executive Officer had discussions with the President of the United Dairy Farmers of Victoria.

(ii) Council agreed a letter be addressed to the Managing Director, Murray Goulburn Cooperative as a foundation member of the Federation offering any assistance that might be usefully provided.

12. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Council was set for Monday, 20th July 1981, commencing 7 p.m.

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13. CLOSURE

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 10.15 p.m.

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